

Message Text

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TAGS: UNGA

SUBJ: CLOSING ADDRESS BY 29TH UNGA PRESIDENT BOUTEFLIKA

SUMMARY: IN HIS CLOSING ADDRESS BEFORE THE SEPTEMBER 16
PLENARY SESSION, PRESIDENT BOUTEFLIKA STRONGLY DEFENDED
THE EMERGENCE OF A "NEW MAJORITY" IN THE 29TH UNGA FROM
CRITICISM THAT IT CONSTITUTES AN IDEOLOGICALLY HOMOGENEOUS
BLOC INTENT ON REVENGE. HE POINTED OUT THAT THE THIRD WORLD
MAJORITY IS REALISTICALLY MOTIVATED BY CONSIDERATIONS OF
ENLIGHTENED SELF-INTEREST AND THAT IT DESIRES TO AVOID
A TRIAL OF STRENGTH WITH THE WEST. HE CALLED UPON THE
GREAT POWERS TO END THEIR RESISTANCE TO THE THIRD WORLD,
AND TO ENTER INTO A "TRUE PARTNERSHIP" WITH IT. END SUMMARY.

1. BOUTEFLIKA SAID THAT THE PRINCIPAL SIGNIFICANCE OF THE
29TH UNGA LAY IN THE EMERGENCE OF A "NEW MAJORITY"
REPRESENTING THE THIRD WORLD. HE VIGOROUSLY DEFENDED THIS
MAJORITY AGAINST ACCUSATIONS THAT IT CONSTITUTES AN "IDEO-
LOGICALLY HOMOGENEOUS BLOC"; THAT ITS DECISIONS HAVE BEEN
ARBITRARY AND MECHANICAL"; AND THAT IT IS "THIRSTING FOR
REVENGE" AGAINST WEALTHY COUNTRIES. HE EMPHASIZED THAT
THE SOLIDARITY OF THE THIRD WORLD MAJORITY DERIVES FROM
"REALISTIC" MOTIVES OF ENLIGHTENED SELF-INTEREST, AND POINTED
OUT THAT ITS ACTIONS IN THE U.N. HAVE BEEN CONSISTENT WITH
THE PRACTICES OF WESTERN PARLIAMENTARY DEMOCRACIES. HE
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ADDED THAT THE THIRD WORLD IS WELL AWARE OF ITS LIMITED

POWER, AND DESIRES TO AVOID A "TRIAL OF STRENGTH" WITH THE WEST WHICH IT CANNOT WIN.

2. BOUTEFLLIKA DESCRIBED THE EMERGENCE OF THE THIRD WORLD MAJORITY IN THE U.N. AS A MANIFESTATION OF THE SHIFT IN THE AXIS OF WORLD CONFLICT FROM AN EAST-WEST TO A NORTH-SOUTH STRUGGLE. HE SAID THAT THIS TREND WAS AN INEVITABLE RESULT OF EAST-WEST DETENTE AND THE DEMAND OF NEW NATIONS FOR A GREATER ROLE IN WORLD AFFAIRS. WHILE NOTING "OBVIOUS DIFFERENCES" BETWEEN CAPITALIST AND SOCIALIST DCS, HE SAID THAT ALL WEALTHY COUNTRIES, PARTICULARLY THE GREAT POWERS, SHOULD CEASE LAMENTING AND BLOCKING THE RISE OF THE THIRD WORLD. HE SAID THAT THE 29TH UNGA HAD COMPELLED THE GREAT POWERS TO END THEIR "DELIBERATE NEGLECT" OF THIRD WORLD PROBLEMS, AND TO CONFRONT THEIR "TRUE RESPONSIBILITIES". HE ADDED THAT EFFORTS MUST BE MADE TO OVERCOME CONTINUING RESISTANCE TO THESE RESPONSIBILITIES BY ENCOURAGING THE PRESS AND MEDIA TO EDUCATE PUBLIC OPINION, PARTICULARLY IN WESTERN COUNTRIES.

3. BOUTEFLLIKA CONCLUDED BY STRESSING THE IMPORTANCE INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION IN REDUCING OPPOSITION TO THE THIRD WORLD'S ATTEMPT TO REALIZE THE NIEO. HE SAID THAT COOPERATION SHOULD BE PRACTICED, NOT MERELY PREACHED, AND EXPRESSED HOPE THAT A "TRUE PARTNERSHIP" WILL APPEAR IN THE 30TH UNGA AS IT CONTINUES THE WORK OF THE 29TH SESSION.
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